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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

COUNTRY	USSR/East Germany	REPORT NO.		50X1
SUBJECT	Soviet Military Manpower Policies	DATE DISTR.	16 June 1955	
		NO. OF PAGES	10	
DATE OF INFO.		50X1	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED			REFERENCES	
DATE ACQUIRED				

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE:		50X1
		50X1

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC					
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")															

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REPORT NO

COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 20 May 1955

SUBJECT Soviet Military Manpower

NO. OF PAGES 9

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50X1

REFERENCES:

50X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

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INDUCTION AND ASSIGNMENT

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Registration

1.

Pre-Induction Military Training

2. After source was registered with the Rayvovenkomat, he began a period of "110 hours" military training, conducted in the fall of 1944. It was organized by the Rayvovenkomat. Registrants were organized into four platoons totaling about 120 men. For the most part the training

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was conducted in the basement of a large building near the Gorkiy city stadium. Participants studied basic military subjects which included close-order drill, preliminary rifle marksmanship, and some basic individual and small unit infantry tactical training. Training was held each Sunday plus one day during the week, during which time the participants were freed from their jobs. For this day they received compensatory pay from their places of employment. Source believed that this "110 hours" training was a wartime expedient and was curtailed about 1946.

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Induction

3.

4. Source did not know how many men were inducted because he and two other inductees arrived late at the Voenkomat. He was accompanied to the Voenkomat by a soldier friend that was home on leave. A

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5. The captain instructed source's soldier friend to see that the late arrivals reached Paveletskiy railroad station in Moscow. Here source joined a group of other inductees and the entire group occupied two cars. The group was sent to Kashira (N 54-50, E 38-17) for a physical examination. Source had already had a prior pre-induction physical in 1949 or 1950, but did not remember any of the examination. Following the physical examination at Kashira, source was sent with a large group of men in several cars to Novo-Borisov (N 54-13, E 28-32) for basic training with the 52d Mechanized Regiment. Additional troop cars had been added in Moscow.

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Travel to Germany

6.

- a. Facilities for troops enroute - Source arrived in Germany with about 500-700 men. The route taken was via Novo-Borisov and Chernyakhovsk (N 54-39, E 21-50) to the Templin Training Area in East Germany. From Novo-Borisov to the Polish border, there were 50 or 60 men per car. At the Polish border at Chernyakhovsk, a transfer was made from the broad gauge track to the smaller European gauge track. The entire group was loaded into smaller boxcars of 30 to 38 men per boxcar. Somewhere in Belorussia, additional boxcars containing troops were added. Source did not know where this occurred, nor could he give any estimates as to the number of troops in these additional cars. He only knew that about 500-700 men arrived at the final destination in the Templin Training Area.

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The boxcars contained two tiers of wooden bunks. There was a small stove in the center of the car, but there were no other facilities. The men relieved themselves during stops along the way. The train contained a kitchen car that prepared meals during the trip. Feeding was accomplished during halts; the men were fed from one to three times daily. Each car had dry rations which were used when hot meals were not available.

- b. Night travel in Poland - While traveling across Poland, source's troop train traveled only during the night. In addition to this, a Polish train preceded the troop train. It was rumored that these actions were taken to preclude any accidents enroute. Source had heard that partisans were active throughout Poland but he could not give any specific information. Later, in 1952, there were strong rumors in source's regiment that an entire troop train containing demobilized soldiers returning to USSR from Germany was derailed. He had no further information on this subject.
- c. Replacement depots along the route - Since source's group was sent directly to his unit from the USSR, he could give no information concerning replacement depots located enroute.
- d. Assignments to non-German areas - Source's entire group was sent from Novo-Borisov to the 25th Tank Division. He knew of no members of his class that were sent to Austria, Poland, or the USSR.

Mobilization Policies

- 7. Source had heard repeated rumors in the regiment that mobilizations were to be held only once a year during the fall. He could give no other information concerning the mobilization system.

Assignment to Duty in East Germany

- 8. Arriving in the Templin training area, the train was halted in the woods not far from the summer camp of the 25th Tank Division. The entire group of 500-700 men were then unloaded and put into formations. These formations were inspected by representatives of the various sub-units of the division. There was no organization to the distribution of the new arrivals among the sub-units. All of the sub-unit representatives picked out replacements on a "first come, first serve" basis. There was much intimidation and scurrying about by the representatives in grabbing off the better educated or more likely-looking recruits.
- 9. To bring these recruits from the USSR, the 25th Tank Division had sent officers and NCOs to Novo-Borisov to accompany source's group. On the trip to Germany the NCOs were detailed to their particular groups. In source's particular car there were two NCOs during the entire trip. None of the replacements knew his destination until his actual arrival.

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Strength of Units

11. The only actual strength figures that source could estimate were as follows: In the 25th Tank Division, [redacted] 50X1
consisted of about 65 officers and 400 to 425 EM. In the same
50X1 division, [redacted] appeared to have about
2,000 EM and officers.
12. The actual strength of the [redacted] in Berlin- 50X1
Karlshorst was three officers and four EM. Source believed that the
wartime strength of this unit would include an additional four or
five EM.
13. An unidentified komendatura security company in Berlin-Karlshorst
had an actual strength of about 60 EM.
- 50X1 14. At both the [redacted] and in other units known to source
in the Berlin-Karlshorst area, there were men from the 1929-1934
classes inclusive, with the majority of the troops being from the
1931, 1932, and 1933 classes. Source could not give any estimates
on the number of men in each class group.

Soldier Returnees to the USSR Prior to Demobilization

15. Some military personnel were returned to the USSR prior to completing
their regular term of service. Following are listed some personnel
who were returned to the USSR and the principal causes for return:
- 50X1 a. From the [redacted] - Two EM were returned for illnesses.
One had a stomach ailment and spent most of his service time in
hospitals. Source did not know for what illness the other EM
was returned. One EM was transferred because of a death in the
family. In some cases EM were allowed to go home for a 10 to 15
day leave because of a death in the family, but in most cases
these men could not get home in time for the funeral because of
the time spent in granting final approval. An officer was
returned in 1951 because of fraternization and excessive drinking.
This was considered a case of political unreliability. Another
officer was returned because he had killed a German girl while
out on a drunken-driving spree. In 1951, one EM who had raped a
German girl was tried by a Military Tribunal and returned to the
USSR. An officer was returned to the USSR in 1952 to attend an
unknown academy, and two EM were sent to an unknown Artillery OCS
in Leningrad in 1952. These EM had completed 10 classes of
schooling and had made application for the OCS through the regi-
mental headquarters. Source could give no further information on
entrance procedures.
- 50X1 b. From [redacted] - Only one man was returned from
this unit prior to completion of his term of service. This man
was a sergeant who was suffering from a bad heart condition.
- c. Causes for Return - In general, men were returned to the USSR as
a result of accidents or illnesses, political unreliability,
misbehavior or criminal acts, or for compassionate reasons, or
reassignment. Source could not give any information on the
degree of illness or injury qualifying return to the USSR but
stated that tuberculosis, loss of a limb, or serious internal
injuries qualified a soldier for return. He did not know the
degree of political unreliability necessary to cause an officer
or EM to be returned.

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- d. Personnel were returned to the USSR for committing murder, rape, robbery, manslaughter, for repeated military offenses, and for excessive drinking; and in rare cases, they were returned for compassionate reasons, particularly in case of extreme family hardship such as death of the family breadwinner. In the latter case, the request for return would be made by the voyenkomat from which the man was inducted.
- e. In June 1952, a large group of men were returned from the entire 25th Tank Division for reassignment to a new air unit that was being formed somewhere in the USSR. In source's regiment the regimental CO picked out six of the worst EM of the regiment to fill his quota and source heard that every unit of the division did the same thing. The EM who were sent were not particularly happy about this since the term of service in the air force was four years.
- f. Methods of Returning EM - Source did not know how hospitalized troops or prisoners were returned to the USSR. He believed that prisoners went under individual guard, while others were returned either individually or in groups, depending upon conditions. For example, EM who were to be returned to the USSR late in the year for reasons other than demobilization were returned together with demobilized troops.

Demobilization Policies

16. In August 1954, demobilization in units known to source in the Berlin area had started for those conscripted EM who came from distant parts of the USSR. All men who had been inducted in 1951, regardless of whether they had been called in the first half or the second half of the year, were being demobilized. Though a majority of the EM being demobilized were of the class of 1931, there were also men from classes of 1929 and 1930 and even a very few of the class of 1932 who had completed three years of service.
17. [redacted] during source's entire service in Germany, all eligible personnel were demobilized on schedule. Source heard that the division CG could hold men for an extra six months beyond the three years of service. Demobilized personnel reported to their respective voyenkomats upon demobilization and were entered on reserve rolls.
18. Upon demobilization, personnel were returned to the area from which they had been drafted. However, prior to demobilization, personnel were able to make application for return to areas other than that from which they were drafted. This rule was not honored if the selection was Moscow, Leningrad, Odessa, or certain other cities. The reasons for this were the crowded conditions of these larger cities and a policy of stemming the exodus to the cities from agricultural communities.

Replacement Procedures

19. When EM were returned to the USSR prior to completing their term of service from units of source's acquaintance, there was no replacement for these men immediately. Replacements arrived only during the regular mobilization periods.

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20. Up to the fall of 1953, officers normally served about three years in Germany. They were returned to the USSR only after their replacement had arrived which was after three years more or less. In fall 1953, however, there was an order read at a unit formation attended by source concerning officer tours of duty in Germany. From then on, officers were to be required to remain in Germany indefinitely unless they made special application to be returned to the USSR because of personal reasons. As a result, source estimated that from the time of his transfer [redacted] about 10 percent of the officers of the [redacted] had served in Germany from 1950 on.
21. As far as source knew, the 25th Tank Division did not maintain a replacement pool. He was quite sure that the [redacted] Army also did not have a replacement pool.
22. In 1952 there was a reshuffling of troops within source's regiment. Source believed that the reason for this was to insure a more even distribution of first, second, and third year men within the regiment. He was not sure but believed that the same procedure took place throughout the division.

Reserve Policies and Procedures

23. Source had no information on the procedure for recalling a reservist from inactive duty status, although he had heard of individual reservists being recalled. He had heard that all demobilized personnel went into one of three categories. The first was subject to recall at any time, the second was subject to recall in the event of war, and the third was subject for service with labor or construction battalions. Demobilized persons did not undergo any military training. Source had never heard of any reserve units as such.
- a. Recall of Reserve Officers from Inactive Duty - Source had not met any officers on an inactive status since 1947, when he had met a wartime major. He assumed that there was a Soviet Army corps of reserve officers on inactive status. Source believed that the majority of reserve officers on inactive status was comprised of World War II officers demobilized immediately after that conflict, and that officers on active duty who were demobilized for physical reasons were also transferred to the reserve. However, the latter persons constituted only a small part of the officers reserve corps. Source did not know if the reserve corps also included officers who received commissions by attending institutes or universities and personally knew of no person in this possible category.
- b. Officers Recalled - Source stated that there were some officers recalled from the reserves to active duty, but he could not estimate the percentage of these to the total number of officers on active duty. His unit CO had been recalled to active duty in this manner, as had the [redacted]. Both were World War II veterans. However, most of the officers were career personnel who had either remained on duty continuously after World War II or had completed an officers candidate school after World War II, not having served in this conflict. Source believed that all officers on active duty could be considered career personnel, with no distinction to be made between so-called "reserve" and "career" officers. He had no further information on career officers or officer reserve matters.

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- c. EM Reserve Matters - Source believed that all EM received a one-rank promotion in the reserves upon demobilization. Thus, first sergeants or master sergeants became junior lieutenants, senior sergeants became master sergeants, and so forth. However, he could give no specific examples of demobilized personnel thus promoted and he was not quite certain about this information.

OPERATIONS OF A VOYENKOMAT

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25. Source was closely questioned on the working procedures of a Voenkomat, as well as on any other data concerning it. The only information he could give in addition to that in the preceding paragraph was the fact that there were four sections in the Voenkomat. The First Section was apparently responsible for veterans' affairs, pensions, and social welfare activities; many women visited this section to seek information and to pick up pension checks. The Third Section was apparently responsible for maintaining reserve rosters of demobilized personnel. The Fourth Section was headed by the chief of the Voenkomat, but his responsibilities and his duties were unknown. Source had no further information on the Second Section nor could he elaborate on any of these sections. All personnel working in the Voenkomat, with the exception of personnel detailed to it such as source himself, were regular army personnel. He could give no further information on personalities.
26. For the 10-day period that source worked at the Voenkomat, he was reimbursed by the plant for which he worked. When source's foreman questioned source's whereabouts for the 10-day period, source merely showed him the notice he had received to appear at the Voenkomat and no further questions were asked. He could give no explanation as to why he had been detailed there.

LABOR SERVICE

27. Source did not know who was responsible for securing personnel for labor services in the USSR. Students of factory work schools usually underwent a two-year course, following which they were required to work as compensation for these two years of training. Some of these men were subjected to draft calls sooner or later, but source could give no estimates or specific examples of the categories of persons called.
28. Source did not know what percentage of men legally liable for military duty were actually inducted. He knew, however, that all Soviet males of draft age were not inducted. Students attending classes in institutions higher than high school level were seldom if ever inducted and source rarely saw an EM who had completed more than 10 classes of school serving in the army. He believed that students attending university level schools were given the opportunity to enter directly as OCS candidates.

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29. Source did not know how the Voenkomat and the Labor Reserve Office divided the young men between labor and military services. He believed that this was worked out by higher ministries, depending on the particular needs of each service.
30. Students studying in tekhnikums for two or three years were required to work off their two or three years after graduation at some factory or plant before being called to active military duty. However, this practice was not strictly adhered to; consequently technical school graduates were inducted prior to completing the required period of employment, provided that their factory director concurred. Source could not recall whether military training of any sort was given in these schools after World War II.
31. Source could give no information on the proportion of males to females called for labor services. During World War II it was mandatory that all females who had completed four years of school be registered for labor services. This practice was stopped at the end of the war. To the best of source's knowledge, young women joined the labor reserves as volunteers in the years following the war.

UTILIZATION OF WOMEN IN THE SOVIET ARMY

Location of Personnel

32. In source's old regiment there were seven or eight female personnel. They served as cooks, cleaning women, waitresses, and clerk-typists. There were female personnel in all the regiments of the 25th Tank Division. The [] had about 30 females while the other regiments had less; their exact numbers were unknown.
33. The division Medical Battalion had both male and female personnel, but the number of females was unknown to source. He believed that they served both as nurses and doctors. There were about five female officers working in the unidentified military hospital in Prenzlau. These officers were mostly junior lieutenants or lieutenants. One of the female officers was a lieutenant colonel who served as a surgeon. There were no enlisted females at this hospital. At an unidentified military hospital [] on Trescow Allee in Berlin, there were both enlisted and commissioned females, in addition to civilian female personnel. Source was never in the hospital and could give no further information on this subject.

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Training Received

34. Female personnel in source's regiment were required to participate only in political training. Once in 1952, there had been an attempt to have the female personnel participate in some limited training but this plan was unsuccessful and was dropped.

Pay

35. Females in source's regiment told him that they were paid according to the type of job held. Cleaning women received about 300 to 360 Eastmarks, cooks about 450 to 470 Eastmarks. In addition to this, each received an unknown sum of rubles credited to their account in the USSR.

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Procurement of EW

36. It was difficult to determine the status of females in source's regiment. Six of the EW wore uniforms with armor shoulderboards and were all privates or PFCs. Some EW stated that they were recruited, others said that they had been inducted, and still others stated that they had volunteered. Source had the overall impression, however, that the EW were recruited by their respective Voenkomats.

Female Civilian Personnel

37. Two females in source's regiment never wore uniforms. One was a cleaning woman and the other a cook. Both were Soviet civilians and had volunteered for these jobs.

Terms of Service

38. The regimental female enlisted personnel served for three years. Source could not state whether any served a second period, although he was sure that they could serve more than three years. The civilians served according to their own desires.

MILITARY DISTRICTS

39. Source knew of the Moscow, Ural, Leningrad, Kiev, and Sverdlovsk military districts. He did not know the total number of military districts in the USSR. Although he lived many years in the area, source believed that there was no [redacted] but that this area was in the Moscow Military District.

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MILITARY EDUCATION IN CIVILIAN SCHOOLS

40. Source did not know if military training was conducted in college-level civilian schools at the time of his defection. In the seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth classes there was military training during World War II. Source did not believe that any military training was conducted in secondary schools after World War II. He could not give any information on the DOSAAF organization.
41. Source did not know if graduates of colleges or universities received officer's commissions in the reserve upon graduation.

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1. [redacted]

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173.122
173.711
755.421
755.421
755.313
755.02
232
173.75
173.73

N	173.729	N
N	761.125	N
N	233.7	N
55M	234.7	N
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